

HIV/AIDS among Hispanics/Latinos in Georgia

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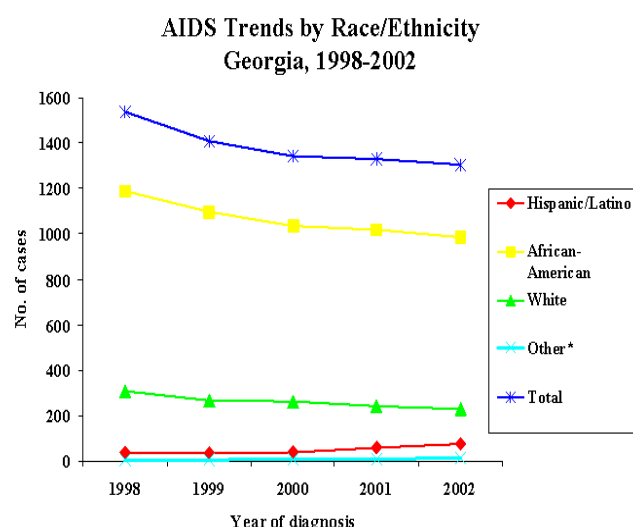
According to the United States Census, there were 435,227 Hispanics/Latinos in Georgia in 2000.

The Hispanic/Latino population increased 300 percent from 1990 to 2000 in Georgia. Among the 435,227 Hispanics/Latinos in Georgia, 63 percent were Mexicans, 8 percent were Puerto Ricans, 3 percent were Cubans, and 26 percent were of other Hispanic origin.

The number of newly reported AIDS cases has decreased in Georgia and nationally since the mid-1990s. The decline is most likely due to effective therapies delaying or preventing the progression from HIV infection to AIDS.

From 1998 to 2002, the number of people diagnosed with AIDS in Georgia declined overall; however, there was a 108 percent increase in the number of Hispanics/Latinos with AIDS (from 36 cases in 1998 to 75 cases in 2002) (see figure).

Source: United States Census Bureau (2000), and Georgia Division of Public Health, HIV/AIDS Reporting System (December 2003).



* Other includes Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaska Native

It's a Fact

There were 420 Hispanics/Latinos living with AIDS in Georgia as of December 2003.

In 2002, the rate of adult/adolescent AIDS cases in Hispanics and Latinos in Georgia (14.5 per 100,000) was more than 3 times the rate in whites (4.3 per 100,000). Latinos had the second highest rate in Georgia.

From 1998-2002, more than 80 percent of the AIDS cases among Hispanics/Latinos have been in males in Georgia.

The most reported mode of infection among Hispanics/Latinos diagnosed with AIDS in 2002 was men who have sex with men (MSM) (32 percent), followed by heterosexual contact (15 percent), transfusion/hemophilia (3 percent), injection drug use (IDU) (3 percent), and risk not reported/other (48 percent).

Hispanics/Latinos (52 percent) surveyed for the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) in Georgia in 2001 were less aware about treatment for pregnant women with HIV and their babies than whites (46 percent), African-Americans (38 percent), and people in other racial groups (49 percent).

Source: Georgia Division of Public Health, HIV/AIDS Reporting System (December 2003), and Georgia Division of Public Health, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) (2001).

For more information on HIV/AIDS statistics, contact the Georgia Office of Minority Health's HIV/AIDS TAKE Project at (404) 463-8957 or visit www.communityhealth.state.ga.us